

Appl. No. 10/631,998
Amdt. Dated April 12, 2004
Reply to Office Action of January 12, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An electrical connector comprising:
an insulative housing comprising a supporting portion, a mating portion above the supporting portion, and a channel defined in the mating portion;
an inner shell ~~encloses~~ disposed in the mating portion and comprising a grounding leg extending into the channel;
an outer shell enclosing both the insulative housing and the inner shell;
a plurality of terminals extending through the mating portion and being enclosed by the inner shell; and
a grounding tab comprising an intermediate portion, a contacting portion extending from the intermediate portion, and a solder tail ~~extending from the intermediate portion~~ opposite to the contacting portion, the contacting portion extending into the said channel and ~~parallel~~ parallelly electrically connecting to the grounding leg of the inner shell.

Claim 2 (original): The electrical connector as described in claim 1, wherein the inner shell comprises an upper wall, a lower wall and a pair of side walls connecting the upper wall and the lower wall.

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Claim 3 (currently amended): The electrical connector as described in claim 2, wherein the grounding leg extends rearwardly ~~and from one of~~ the lower wall.

Claim 4 (original): The electrical connector as described in claim 2, wherein the grounding leg extends from one of the two opposed side wall.

Claim 5 (original): The electrical connector as described in claim 1, wherein the grounding leg comprises a protruded therefrom.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The electrical connector as described in claim 1, wherein the mating portion of the insulative housing comprises a upper wall, a lower wall and a pair of opposite side walls connecting the upper wall and the lower wall, ~~and wherein~~ the upper wall, the bottom wall and the side walls ~~define~~ defining a receiving space therebetween.

Claim 7 (original): The electrical connector as described in claim 6, wherein the channel is defined in the lower wall of the insulative housing and communicates with the receiving space.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The electrical connector as described in claim 7, wherein the insulative housing defines a ~~pair of slots~~ slot to receive the intermediate portion of the grounding tab.

Claim 9 (original): The electrical connector as described in claim 1, wherein the grounding tab comprises an angled portion between the intermediate portion and the solder tail.

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Claim 10 (currently amended): The electrical connector as described in claim 1, further comprises a first terminal module and a second terminal module stackedly arranged with the first terminal module, wherein the first and the second ~~module modules~~ are being retained in the receiving space of the insulative housing and comprise comprising a first dielectric bodies insert-molded with first terminals and a second dielectric bodies insert-molded with ~~the first and the second~~ terminals.

Claim 11 (original): The electrical connector as described in claim 10, wherein the first terminal module comprises a spacer insert-molded with the first terminals and assembled to the insulative housing.

Claim 12 (original): The electrical connector as described in claim 10, wherein a key extends upwardly from the second dielectric body toward the first dielectric body.

Claim 13 (original): The electrical connector as described in claim 1, further comprising a rear shell covering a rear face of the insulative housing and engaging with the outer shell.

Claim 14 (original): The electrical connector as described in claim 1, further comprising a second grounding tab, wherein the mating portion defines a second channel receiving the second grounding tab and wherein the inner shell comprises a second grounding leg extending into the second channel and electrically connecting with the second grounding tab.

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Claim 15 (currently amended): An electrical connector comprising:
an insulative housing including a mating portion with a receiving space for receiving complementary connector therein, and a pair of horizontal channels communicatively located on two sides of the receiving space;

a metallic inner shell received in the receiving space with a pair of horizontal grounding legs extending into the corresponding channels;

a plurality of terminals disposed in the housing and further extending into the inner shell;

a metallic outer shell enclosing said housing; and

a pair of grounding tabs inserted into the housing from a rear face of the housing and laterally located between said inner shell and said outer shell; wherein

each of said grounding tabs includes a horizontal contacting portion mechanically and electrically engaged with ~~the~~ a corresponding grounding leg in the channel.

Claim 16 (original): The connector as described in claim 15, wherein said pair of channels are located below said receiving space.

Claim 17 (new): An electrical connector comprising:

an insulative housing defining an opening;

a first terminal module including an upper plate with a plurality of downwardly facing first terminals;

a second terminal module including a lower plate with a plurality of upwardly facing second terminals;

the first terminal module and the second terminal module attached to each

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other under a condition that a space is formed between the upper plate and the lower plate;

the upper plate and the lower plate extending forwardly through the opening;
and

a metallic shell covering an upper face of the upper plate and a bottom face of the lower plate.